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VIDWAN T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN : ஆம், இருபது ஆண்டு களாகச் செய்துகொண்டுவருகிறேன், கற்றுக்கொடுத்தும் வருகிறேன்.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Is it open to a Member to answer another Member's question?

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is not proper either for a Member to ask a question like that or for a Member to answer a question like that.

Fee concession

* 146 *Q.*—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the conditions under which the fee concession for teachers' children is withdrawn in Forms IV to VI?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : The fee concessions granted to the children of teachers, studying in Forms IV to VI in Secondary Schools, are withheld if the pupils remain for more than one year in one and the same form. But the concession is revived if and when the pupils are promoted to the next higher form.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Is it not a fact that with regard to lower Forms, pupils are allowed two failures?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I do not have the facts relating to the lower classes.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Government consider the question of retaining that concession for another year also in Forms IV to VI?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : The sons of teachers should set a better example.

Leprosy Homes

* 147 *Q.*—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of Leprosy Homes in the State with number of beds in each and the pattern of State aid given to these institutions; and

(*b*) the steps taken for rehabilitation of patients discharged from such Homes?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (*a*) & (*b*) A statement [a] is placed on the table of the House.

[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 538 infra.

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SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : What steps are being taken for rehabilitation of patients discharged from such Homes—that has not been stated in the statement laid on the table of the House

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Proposals for starting rehabilitation centres in this State are being considered. Now, as it is, I have mentioned the names of the institutions where rehabilitation is provided and also the amounts granted to such persons.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : May I know whether State aid is being given to these institutions, particularly for rehabilitation schemes in the case of aided institutions?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : I have mentioned about eight institutions. Grants in the nature of *ad hoc* grants have been given. The Sanatorium at Ethapur, Salem district, is a Government institution and the expenditure is entirely borne by the Government. With regard to the Tirumani institution, maintenance aid amounting to Rs. 3 lakhs is being given annually. With regard to St. Joseph's Leprosy Home, Arokiapuram, Tirunelveli district, a capitation grant of Rs. 32,000 and odd is given. With regard to Kasturba Gandhi Kushta Nivaran Nilayam, Mazhavanthangal, South Arcot district, a grant of Rs. 15,000 and odd is given. I have visited some of these centres. Rehabilitation is in the nature of teaching them mat-weaving, socks-making and giving them training in small cottage industries.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : With reference to item (3), I should like to know when the capitation grant was fixed at the rate of Rs. 12 per mensem and whether the Government would kindly consider the case for raising the rates so that efficient service may be rendered to the in-patients in such Homes.

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : I cannot exactly say from the facts available here when it was fixed. But it is a private institution and at that rate, Rs. 32,000 and odd are being given. In order to give aid to as many institutions as possible, we cannot particularly raise the rates.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : May I know whether with the coming in of new drugs to cure leprosy, leprosy has been brought under control in the State of Madras and whether there is an appreciable decrease in the number of cases?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : I cannot say whether at present there has been any appreciable decrease and whether it has been brought under control, but there is now an all-out drive to see that leprosy is controlled and ultimately eradicated. The Government at the Centre are particular about it and they are marking available funds for that. A number of missions are also working in our State. A German mission is shortly going to come. When all these begin to work, we must have good results.